



Sidney Job Service Employers' Committee

Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2009

Employers Attending

Sharon Nelson – Sidney Sugars
Lisa Brittingham - OPA
Jeri Chapman – Sidney Health Center
Lisa Aisenbrey – Sidney Health Center
MaryAnn Vester – DCC

Job Service Staff Attending

Jacklyn Damm
Vernette Torgerson

Round Table Update of Organizations:

MaryAnn: Glendive JSEC will be hosting “*Workplace Violence, Harassment & Discrimination*” seminar being held in Glendive April 18, 2009. Call or email the Glendive Job Service to register. 406-377-3314 – GlendiveJSC@mt.gov See the attachment for more details.

The Sidney Job Service will email out this announcement to our local businesses.

There will also be Free Basic Information Security Awareness Seminar in Glendive sponsored by the Dawson Community College. It will be held at the Dawson County High School in room C131 on March 24th from 1-5 pm. Pre-registration is required. Please see the attachment for more details.

Lisa/Jeri: Construction is still on going. Lisa reported few people have questioned why the hospital is adding on during this time of poor economics. Lisa stated this project has been in the planning and development process for over 5 years which was before there was a recession.

Vernette: Sidney Job Service will be adding a 1 year temp staff person starting in April. WIA Adult and Dislocated Worker will be receiving stimulus funding in April. Rapid

Response may also receive more funding. We have not needed to do a Rapid Response as of this time but still need to educate employers.

A meeting was held at the Sidney High School with several staff. Vernetta explained what services Sidney Job Service has to offer, information about programs and looking for feed back from the school in regards to what Job Service can do for them. This meeting went very well and the staff was brainstorming on ideas. Sherry has taught a resume/application class at the Sidney High School and also to youth court.

Jacklyn reported DCC will be holding a welding contest for high school students. Information has been emailed to the welding instructors in all of the Richland County Schools. Their goal is to promote the career of welding to High School students from the area.

Sharon: Business as usual. Repair and maintenance safety training is held this time of year. Sharon complimented the Sidney Job Service for the help they have given their laid off staff.

Lisa (OPA): There will be extra food stamp benefits as of April. This will be a 13.6% increase because of the stimulus plan. Policy changes in the food stamp program have eliminated the need to prove assets. The food stamp program is now called S.N.A.P (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program). They are busy as usual.

Minutes from last meeting:

tabled

Treasurer's Report:

As of March 19, 2009	Checking - \$1,089.24
	Savings - \$4,212.42

Old Business:

QuickBooks Training Update: Vernetta reported Anderson/Zurmuehlen, out of Helena would be willing to do a full day of 4 classes for a fee of \$4,500. Manuals would be provided. We would need 10 people and charge \$95 per class to break even. Several dates were available and were discussed by members. April 20, April 27. May 11, May 25 are the options at this time. After discussion it was agreed none of these would work. We decided to look at date in June. Vernetta will contact the company for a June date and will email the JSEC members for approval. Once a date is set, she will work on a draft for advertising. Maryann reports there are 12 lap tops available from DCC. Vernetta said the company will train up to 20 people at one time so a participant could bring their own lap top if they had the right programs installed. Ideas for a location were library basement, Ag meeting room, Community Service building.

New Business :

MSEC State Meeting: May 18-21, 2009 Red Lion Colonial Inn – Helena, MT
Fee's are on our won or may come out of the JSEC budget.

Job/Service Provider Fair: Vernetta suggested collaboration between JSEC/Life Long Learning/CMT to hold an all inclusive event at the county fair grounds. This would not only have employers like a traditional job fair, but also have service providers to educate employers as well as job seekers regarding what services are available in case of lay off or closers. This would be an 'Opportunity Fair'. Life Long Learning will be putting out a survey soon regarding what types of training are needed, who is available to do trainings, what skills are needed, etc. The survey will be available on Survey Monkey, hard copy that can be picked up at Job Service and the library, link with the Sidney Herald plus others. Vernetta stated job fairs at the high school have not gone over well in the past and she would like to see something on a grander scale that incorporates all of the needed services and opportunities under one roof. This would be advertised to all of eastern Montana. Members present agreed this is a good idea. Suggested time of year was right after school starts so the buildings would still be cleaned out and ready for use.

MaryAnn reported the Eastern Ag Research will be adding a new building. Dr. Berman will be presenting to DCC.

Vernetta suggested we find new meeting locations for the upcoming spring and summer months due to the Country Club's busy season. Suggestions were Sunny's, Sidney Health Center, Job Service, OPA meeting room. It was also suggested to have our meeting from 11:00 – 12:00 to avoid the noon rush. Phone conversations with Sharon and Cheryl find this meeting time would work well for their schedules. Cheryl also suggested The Bean Bag or Millers Corner as meeting places.

Correction from last months minutes: OPA has received approximately 10-20 more applications per month. (not 10-20% increase)

Next Meeting: April 16th – Time and location to be announced.